

Interstate Commission for Water Coordination in Central Asia	BULLETIN № 2 (45)	April, 2007
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CONTENTS

THE PROTOCOL OF THE 46TH MEETING OF THE INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR WATER COORDINATION (ICWC) REPRESENTED BY THE REPUBLICS OF KAZAKHSTAN, KYRGYZSTAN, TAJIKISTAN, TURKMENISTAN AND UZBEKISTAN	4
REGARDING IMPLEMENTATION OF WATER WITHDRAWAL LIMITS DURING THE NON-GROWING SEASON 2006-2007 AND APPROVAL OF SPECIFIED OPERATING MODES OF RESERVOIR CASCADES IN THE AMUDARYA AND THE SYRDARYA RIVER BASINS	8
FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT FOR COLLABORATION ON PROMOTION OF AWARENESS AND INFORMATION EXCHANGE ON WATER ISSUES IN THE RUSSIAN SPEAKING COUNTRIES BETWEEN WORLD WATER COUNCIL (WWC) AND SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION CENTER, INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR WATER COORDINATION OF CENTRAL ASIA (SIC ICWC).....	14
EC CONFERENCE DEVOTED TO THE OPENING OF THE SEVENTH FRAMEWORK RESEARCH PROGRAM.....	18
GWP CACENA (GLOBAL WATER PARTNERSHIP FOR CENTRAL ASIA AND CAUCASUS) ACTIVITIES IN THE FRAMEWORK OF ASIA-PACIFIC WATER FORUM	21
THE FORTH MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE EUROPEAN WATER CONVENTION...	25
INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM «WATER RESOURCES AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCES IN ASIA»	26
THE MEETING OF EXPERT GROUPS ON CABRI-VOLGA PROJECT.....	27
ACCELERATED IMPLEMENTATION OF INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT IN CENTRAL ASIA.....	29
IMPROVED MANAGEMENT OF SHARED WATER RESOURCES IN CENTRAL ASIA	32
JOINT WORKSHOPS FOR THE PROJECTS «INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT IN FERGANA VALLEY» (IWRM-FERGANA) AND «CENTRAL ASIAN REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT AND WATER INFORMATION BASE» (CAREWIB).....	37
OUR HEROS OF THE DAY	41

THE PROTOCOL OF THE 46TH MEETING OF THE INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR WATER COORDINATION (ICWC) REPRESENTED BY THE REPUBLICS OF KAZAKHSTAN, KYRGYZSTAN, TAJIKISTAN, TURKMENISTAN AND UZBEKISTAN

8-10 March, 2007

Ashgabat city

Participants:

ICWC members:

Ryabtsev Anatoliy Dmitrievich	Chairman, the Committee for Water Resources under the Ministry of Agriculture, the Republic of Kazakhstan
Koshmatov Baratali Turanovich	Director General, the Department for Water Resources under the Ministry for Agriculture, Water Resources and Processing Industry, the Kyrgyz Republic
Khamidov Masaïd Yakubovich	Minister for Land Reclamation and Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan
Akmammedov Myratgeldi	Minister for Water Resources of Turkmenistan
Khamraev Shavkat Rakhimovich	Deputy Minister, Chief of Central Water Administration, Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources (MAWR), the Republic of Uzbekistan

From ICWC Executive Bodies:

Dukhovny Viktor Abramovich	Director of SIC ICWC, Professor, Honorary Member of ICWC
Khudayberganov Yuldash Khudayberganovich	Head of BWO "Amudarya"
Khamidov Makhmud Khamidovich	Head of BWO "Syrdarya"
Negmatov Gayrat Abdusattarovich	Chief of ICWC Secretariat, Honorary Member of ICWC

Invitees:

Kipshakbaev Nariman Kipshakbaevich	Director of SIC ICWC Kazakh Office, Professor, Honorary Member of ICWC
Giniyatullin Rim Abdullovich	Honorary Member of ICWC
Sakhvaeva Ekaterina Pavlovna	Chief Specialist, the Department for Water Resources under the Ministry for Agriculture, Water Resources and Processing Industry, the Kyrgyz Republic
Lysenko Oleg Grigoryevich	Head of Division, BWO «Amudarya»
Pulatov Yarash Ergashevich	Director General, NGO TadjikNIIGiM
Pulatov Khamidzhon	Director of RGP «Yuzhvodkhoz», Committee for Water Resources under the Ministry for Agriculture, the Kazakh Republic
Bekniyazov Murat Kabykenovich	Head of Division, the Committee for Water Resources under the Ministry for Agriculture, the Republic of Kazakhstan
Chairman:	Akmammedov Myratgeldi – Minister for Water Resources, Turkmenistan

AGENDA

1. Regarding implementation of water withdrawal limits for the non-growing season 2006-2007 and approval of specified operating modes of reservoir cascades in the Amudarya and the Syrdarya basins (responsible – BWO «Amudarya» and BWO «Syrdarya»).
2. Regarding water allocation within interstate small rivers (responsible SIC ICWC).
3. Regarding results for the ADB Technical Assistance Project RETA 6163 for 2006, Work Program for 2007 and discussion of the draft Agreement on «Water and energy resources use in the Syrdarya river basin».
4. Regarding rotation of ICWC Executive Bodies (responsible ICWC Secretariat).
5. Regarding progress in preparation of Central Asian International Scientific and Practical Conference devoted to the 15th ICWC Anniversary, the Republic of Kazakhstan, Almaty city, April 2007 (responsible SIC ICWC).
6. Information on progress in signing quadripartite protocol on water and energy resources use in the Syrdarya river basin for 2007 and the first quarter 2008 (responsible BWO «Syrdarya»).
7. Venue and agenda of the next 47th ICWC Meeting.

Additional questions:

1. Regarding results for «Central Asian Regional Environment and Water Information Base» (CAREWIB) Project, Phase I.
2. Regarding assistance to EC IFAS and GWP CACENA in fulfillment their activity within the Asian-Pacific Water Forum (responsible IFAS EC and GWP CACENA, Regional Council).

Having approved the agenda, heard the speeches made by the participants of the meeting, and exchanged views, the members of the Interstate Commission for Water Coordination in Central Asia (ICWC) had decided the following:

On the first item:

1. To take into consideration the information on implementing water withdrawal limits and operating mode of reservoir cascade for the non-growing season 2006-2007 as presented by BWO «Amudarya» and BWO «Syrdarya».
2. To adopt the proposal to reduce water withdrawals for the Amudarya and the Syrdarya rivers by 15% of limits 2006 for April, made by BWO «Amudarya» and BWO «Syrdarya». To charge BWO to develop and submit water withdrawal limits for the growing season 2007 based on specified forecast of Hydrometeoservice to ICWC for agreement in Almaty city.

On the second item:

1. To take into account the information on water allocation in interstate small rivers (Component «Small Rivers» under «IWRM-Fergana» Project).
2. To inform periodically ICWC members on work progress under the Component.

On the third item:

1. To approve RWG and NWG work results for the ADB RETA 6163 Project «Improvement of shared water resources management in Central Asia» for 2006 and note that a new draft Agreement on «Water and energy resources use in the Syrdarya river basin» was approved by the working groups on the whole, except for items 6.2 and 8.3. The representatives of national groups will approve these items for final ratification of the Agreement before the next ICWC Meeting.
2. To confirm Work Program for the Project ADB RETA 6163 for 2007, taking into account comments and proposals.

On the forth item:

1. To take into consideration draft Rotation of ICWC bodies as presented by the Secretariat, taking into account comments and proposals. To entrust the Secretariat in collaboration with SIC ICWC with the task of including the respective draft into «Provision on ICWC» during two weeks, based on discussions specifying rotation dates, financing conditions and location.
2. To submit a new draft «Provision on ICWC» to all ICWC members for agreement till 1 April 2007 and for consideration at the next ICWC Meeting.

On the fifth item:

1. To take into consideration the information on progress regarding preparation to the Conference as presented by the Working Group from the Organization Committee.
2. ICWC members in collaboration with SIC ICWC should strengthen the activity with donor organizations in order to provide a sponsor support for preparing and conducting jubilee events.

On the sixth item:

1. To take into consideration the information on progress in preparing quadripartite draft protocol on water and energy resources use in the Syrdarya river basin for 2007 and the first quarter 2008 as presented by BWO «Syrdarya».

On the seventh item:

1. To hold the next 47th ICWC Meeting on 24-25 April 2007 in Almaty city.
2. To approve the agenda for the next 47th ICWC Meeting.

AGENDA

1. Approving water withdrawal limits for the growing season 2007 and agreeing forecast operating mode of reservoir cascade in the Amudarya and the Syrdarya river basins (responsible BWO «Amudarya» and BWO «Syrdarya»).
2. Regarding implementation of IWRM principles in Central Asian region (responsible SIC ICWC, CWR, Kazakhstan).
3. Discussing draft Provision on ICWC and draft Rotation of ICWC bodies.
4. Discussing draft Agreement on «Water and energy resources use in the Syrdarya river basin».
5. Regarding the venue and the agenda of the next 48th ICWC Meeting.

On the first additional item:

1. To mark out a great scope of work done under CAREWIB Project in the part related to establishing Central Asian Water and Environment Portal and Information System.
2. To accept that further continuation of the project activities stated in the “Concept for work extension” is expedient, with focus on developing national information systems (except the Republic of Tajikistan).
3. To mark out the project significance in the part related to raising trust to and openness of water management organizations and water users in the basin, opportunities to update permanently the information on all ICWC issues, as well as popularizing ICWC activity (except the Republic of Tajikistan).
4. ICWC members express their thanks to the Swiss Agency on Development and Cooperation for an active participation and donor support.

On the second additional item:

1. To take into consideration the information on the Asian-Pacific Water Forum by IFAS EC.
2. To deem a preparation activity for holding the Asian-Pacific Water Forum in collaboration with ICWC members and Executive Bodies as necessary.
3. ICWC organizations should support IFAS EC and GWP CACENA in their activity within the Asian-Pacific Water Forum.

For the Republic of Kazakhstan

A. Ryabtsev

For the Kyrgyz Republic

B. Koshmatov

For the Republic of Tajikistan

M. Khamidov

For Turkmenistan

M. Akmammedov

For the Republic of Uzbekistan

Sh. Khamraev

REGARDING IMPLEMENTATION OF WATER WITHDRAWAL LIMITS DURING THE NON-GROWING SEASON 2006-2007 AND APPROVAL OF SPECIFIED OPERATING MODES OF RESERVOIR CASCADES IN THE AMUDARYA AND THE SYRDARYA RIVER BASINS¹

1. The Amudarya river basin

Actual water availability for five months of the non-growing season for the Amudarya river basin in given site Atamyrat and upstream of Garagumdarya was 70,1 % of norm. The actual water availability was 8 billion 414 million m³ (last year it was 12 billion 105 million m³ or 100,8 % of norm) under the norm of 12 billion 006 million m³. Expected water availability for the whole non-growing season will be lower than the norm within 70,0–75,0 %.

Actual flow at gauging station Kelif was 12 billion 365 million m³ against the last-year level of 15 billion 774 million m³ that came to 78,4 %.

Fixed water withdrawal limits use for five months of current non-growing season in the light of states looked in the following way:

- Fixed water withdrawal limit was used by 95,6 % in total for the basin; the actual one was 11 billion 315 million m³ under the limit of 11 billion 835 million m³.
- the Republic of Tajikistan used fixed water withdrawal limit by 71,8 %; there were used 1 billion 616 million m³ actually under the limit of 2 billion 249 million m³;
- Turkmenistan used water withdrawal limits by 99,4 %; there were used 4 billion 658 million m³ actually under the limit of 4 billion 686 million m³;
- the Republic of Uzbekistan used water withdrawal limit by 100,5 %; there were used 4 billion 685 million m³ actually under the limit of 4 billion 664 million m³.

Fixed water withdrawal limit use is the following in the light of river reaches:

1. Upstream is 79,3 %, including Tajikistan - 71,8 %, the Republic of Uzbekistan - 150,7 %.
2. Middle stream is 99,1 %, including the Republic of Uzbekistan - 110,2 %, Turkmenistan - 91,5 %.
3. Downstream is 101,8 %, including the Republic of Uzbekistan - 87,5 %, Turkmenistan - 137,1 %.

Water availability for three downstream water consumers period has been arisen in the following way for the reporting:

1. Dashoguz province – 137,1 %
2. The Republic of Karakalpakstan - 107,6 %
3. Khorosm province - 52,3 %

Water supply plan to the Priaralie and the Aral was fulfilled by 57,4 % for four months of the non-growing season; there were supplied 804 million m³ under the planned one of 1 billion 400 million m³ against the last-year level of 2 billion 633 million m³.

As for the beginning of March 2007, water volume for Nurek reservoir was 6 billion 129 million m³ under the planned one of 5 billion 964 million m³.

¹ Materials for the first item of the agenda of 46th ICWC Meeting, March 2007, Ashgabad city

As for 01.03.2007, water volume for Tuyamuyun reservoir was 4 billion 49 million m³ (last year, there were 5 billion 335 million m³), the expected one was 4611 million m³.

As a whole, the reporting period of the non-growing season was intensive enough. The forecast operating modes for Nurek and Tuyamuyun hydroschemes were not observed as a result of water availability reduction. We had to change operating mode of Tuyamuyun hydroscheme during the non-growing season in order to accumulate required water volume for forced realization of leaching irrigations in the Amudarya downstream.

The expected results showed that, in general, water withdrawal limits would be observed in the light of the basin states, but excesses as well as shortages would be made for certain water consumers.

According to tentative calculations, water availability in site Atamyrat and upstream of Garagumdarya for the growing season 2007 is expected lower than the norm by 20,0 -30,0 %, taking into account domestic water consumption for the Vakhsh river.

Hydrological, climatic and water situation in the basin tends to low water level.

In this context it is planned to investigate the options for water withdrawal limit reduction for the growing season, depending on expected water availability beforehand.

The union presented four options for water withdrawal limit decrease to ICWC members for consideration.

Description	Unit	Options			
Water availability	Percent	85,0	80,0	75,0	70,0
Reduction	Percent	15	20	25	30

We propose to establish water supply plan to the Priaralie and the Aral for the growing season with account of CDW in a volume of 2 billion m³, taking into consideration water availability forecast for the growing season in site Atamyrat and upstream of Garagumdarya, water withdrawal volumes, arisen water reserves in reservoirs.

In conclusion, BWO «Amudarya» proposes:

1. To approve specified operating modes of reservoir cascade for the current non-growing season as presented to ICWC members for consideration.
2. To confirm water withdrawal limits, water supply volumes to the Aral and the Amudarya river delta for the growing season 2007.

2. The Syrdarya river basin

It is planned to consider water withdrawal limit implementation progress for the non-growing season 2006-2007 and approve operating mode of reservoir cascades for the Syrdarya river at the 46th ICWC Meeting agenda.

Water withdrawal limits from the Syrdarya river were not approved and forecast operating mode for Naryn-Syrdarya reservoir cascade for the non-growing season 2006-2007 was agreed at the 45th ICWC Meeting on 13-14 October 2006 in Bishkek.

Operating mode and schedule for Naryn-Syrdarya cascade of reservoirs for October 2006 – March 2007 are given in the Table 6, taking into account actual and forecast values of inflows, releases, water withdrawals and other values of hydraulic parameters.

The analysis of some characteristics within Naryn-Syrdarya cascade operation for the last non-growing season is given below.

Initial water resources (expected and actual ones) for given period are shown in the Table 1.

Table 1

Parameter (1.10.2006 - 1.03.2007)	Forecast, million m ³	Actual, million m ³	In percent
<i>Inflows to upstream reservoirs:</i>			
To Toktogul	2664,91	2600,82	97,60
To Andijan	705,72	781,23	110,7
To Charvak (4 rivers)	941,76	1186,55	125,9
Total	4312,39	4568,6	105,95
<i>Side inflows:</i>			
Toktogul-Uchkurgan	282,77	347,75	123,0
Uchkurgan, Uchtepe-Kayrakum	2950,55	3872,95	131,3
Andijan-Uchtepe	1957,65	2376,77	121,4
Kayrakum-Chardara	1990,84	1140,56	57,3
Gazalkent-Chirchik mouth	654,65	561,34	85,7
Subtotal	7836,46	8299,4	105,90
Total	12148,85	12868,0	105,90

Actual inflow to upstream reservoirs exceeded forecast value in some way and was 105,95 % for the last period 1 October 2006 – 1 March 2007.

Average side inflow for the same period within Naryn, Karadarya, Syrdarya and Chirchik river channels was 105,9 %.

As a whole, actual inflow was higher by 6,0 % than the forecast one for Naryn-Syrdarya cascade of reservoirs.

It should be noted that releases from Toktogul hydropower station for the non-growing season 2006-2007 approached to the figures recommended by ICWC; at the same time, releases to the Aral Sea were about 3251,66 million m³ under the planned values of 2057,40 million m³.

Water volume change for the reservoirs of Naryn-Syrdarya cascade and dynamics of releases from them for the non-growing season are given in the Tables 2 and 3.

Table 2

Reservoir	Reservoir volume, million m ³				
	As for 1.10.06	As for 1.03.07			As for 1.03.06
		Forecast	Actual	In percent	
Toktogul	17154,0	12518,0	11934,25	95,4	13780,0
Andijan	457,40	707,0	832,92	118,3	1070,6
Charvak	1058,40	550,61	745,52	129,95	638,0
Kayrakkum	1168,0	3323,75	3461,60	102,1	3483,0
Chardara	865,0	4894,61	3989,61	81,50	4908,0
TOTAL	20702,8	21993,97	20872,5	95,0	23879,6

Table 3

Description	Releases, million m ³		Difference +/-
	Planned	Actual	
Toktogul	7287,84	7821,71	533,87
Andijan	454,29	403,19	-51,10
Charvak	1440,28	1498,95	58,67
Kayrakkum	8652,96	9984,40	1331,44
Chardara	6242,40	7274,45	1032,05

The largest deviations from operating mode of Naryn-Syrdarya cascade recommended by ICWC are in Kayrakkum reservoir. For the last period, 9984,40 million m³ instead of 8652,96 million m³ (see Table 3) stipulated by the forecast schedule or 115,4 % were released from the reservoir. It is explained by the fact that side inflow reached 131,3 % within Uchkurgan-Uchtepe-Kayrakkum reach and about 105,9 % of forecast values for the Syrdarya river channel.

Side inflow within Kayrakkum–Chardara reach was 57,30 %, while actual releases from Chardara were 116,5 %, as a result the reservoir volume was 81,5 % of planned values.

Implementation of water withdrawal limits

Water withdrawals for the non-growing season 2006-2007 approved by ICWC are given in the Table 4 as for 1 March 2007. Implementation of water withdrawal limits and applications per the republic–water consumer were taken into account based on water situation.

Table 4

Republic, Water region	ICWC limit, Million m ³	Actual, Million m	In percent
The Kyrgyz Republic	23,34	13,50	57,85
The Republic of Uzbekistan	1858,57	2007,48	108,00
The Republic of Tajikistan	109,45	86,05	86,05
The Republic of Kazakhstan (Dustlik)	400,0	204,10	51,10
Total			96,60%

]On average, for the last non-growing season 2006–2007 actual water withdrawals were 96,6 %, while transit to the Syrdarya downstream exceeded 2,0 billion m³.

Actual inflows to Chardara reservoir and water supply to the Aral Sea are given in the Table 5.

Table 5

Parameters	Actual, Million m ³	Forecast, Million m ³
Inflows to Chardara reservoir	9733,88	10412,40
Supply to the Aral Sea	3251,66	2057,40

According to the results, for the last non-growing season 2006-2007 it can be noted the following.

Current non-growing season caused by water availability close to forecast values and accident-free flood by-pass was provided thanks to good monitoring over operating mode of Naryn-Syrdarya cascade.

There was deviation from operating mode of Naryn-Syrdarya cascade agreed by ICWC in Kayrakkum reservoir - 115,4 % of one stipulated by a forecast schedule. It was explained by the fact that side inflow within Uchkurgan-Uchtepe-Kayrakkum was 131,3 % of forecast values.

Actual releases for Chardara reservoir were 116,5 % i.e. 7274,45 million m³ under the limit of 6242,40 million m³, as a result the volume within reservoir area was 81,5 % of planned values.

According to Uzhydromet forecast on precipitation in the Syrdarya river basin of 12 January and 9 February 2007 and evaluation of possible water availability for the growing season 2007, it was noted that precipitation was fallen in a liquid form at the height up to 2500 meters and snow cover depth was very unequal during October-December 2006. In addition, during the third decade of January, high temperature background (by 6-7 degrees) caused an intensive snow cover melting in mountains, especially at the height below 2500 meters. According to a tentative evaluation and based on analysis of hydrometeorological situation as for 31 December 2006, water availability is being expected within 80,0-90,0 % of the norm for the most of rivers in the Syrdarya basin during the growing season 2007 and 60,0-70,0 % of the norm for the rivers in the northern part of Fergana and Kashkadarya basin.

BWO «Syrdarya» accepted water withdrawal limits according to average long-term values, when calculating a forecast balance for the growing season 2007. Water withdrawal limit parameters for the growing season 2007 are given in the Table 6. It is planned to submit them for agreement at ICWC Meeting.

The analysis of situation showed that available water resources in a volume of 17 billion 639 million 350 thousand m³ do not cover the required water quantity for irrigation in volume of 18 billion 712 million 850 thousand m³

In this context, an open joint-stock company «Power stations» of the Kyrgyz Republic and GAK «Uzbekenergo» of the Republic of Uzbekistan signed the Schedule for additional guaranteed releases (above own consumption) from Toktogul reservoir for the growing season 2007 on 20 December 2006.

According to the Protocol signed with the Ministry for Agriculture and Water Resources of the Republic of Uzbekistan in Chardara city on 23 December 2006, the Committee for Water Resources under the Ministry for Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan should conclude the Agreement on electric power reception with the Kyrgyz

Government to cover water deficit for own irrigation during the forthcoming growing season and to receive water from Toktogul during summer period.

Table 6

Water withdrawal limits from the Syrdarya river for the growing season 2007.

River basin, country	Water withdrawal limits for the growing season 2007, million m ³
Total from the Syrdarya river	18570,91
Including:	
The Republic of Kazakhstan	7714,62
The Kyrgyz Republic	221,84
The Republic of Tajikistan	1714,51
The Republic of Uzbekistan	7919,94

FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT FOR COLLABORATION ON PROMOTION OF AWARENESS AND INFORMATION EXCHANGE ON WATER ISSUES IN THE RUSSIAN SPEAKING COUNTRIES BETWEEN WORLD WATER COUNCIL (WWC) AND SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION CENTER, INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR WATER COORDINATION OF CENTRAL ASIA (SIC ICWC»)

The World Water Council and the Scientific Information Centre, Interstate Commission for Water Coordination of Central Asia (collectively referred to herein as the "Parties") have agreed to sign this Memorandum of Understanding ("Memorandum"), which represents a statement of intent by the Parties to work together, and outlines the basis for collaboration and joint activities in fields of mutual interest.

Rationale

Both institutions aim at bringing together government officials (national, local), sector professionals and civil society in order to promote dialogue and share knowledge and experiences to develop and enhance the management of water related services.

The WWC is an international multi-stakeholder platform established on the initiative of renowned water specialists and international organization, of which the SIC ICWC is a respected member.

SIC ICWC is one of the principal executing bodies of the Interstate Coordination works commission of Central Asia, responsible for strategy, information research and execution of the regional programmes of states.

Objective

1. The objective of this Memorandum is to provide a framework within which the Parties can develop and undertake collaborative activities and projects. Specific activities and projects will be undertaken only after mutual agreement of the Parties, set forth in an Activity Agreement, subject to the Parties' respective policies and procedures.

2. The Parties intend to consider ways to:

(a) share agendas, knowledge and ideas, and plan joint activities in areas of common interest;

(b) utilize and leverage their existing resources and facilities to mutual advantage and benefit;

(c) maximize impact through working in partnership;

(d) improve the integration of related activities;

(e) pool resources and expertise where appropriate; and

(f) evaluate the effectiveness of working in collaboration on respective organizational mandates and priorities.

General Forms of Collaboration

1. The Parties anticipate that their collaborative activities will include:

(a) Development, translation into Russian and dissemination in the Russian speaking countries of relevant WWC and water related information through web sites, publications, brochures and other types of information carriers and media.

(b) Development and delivery of jointly determined capacity building programs in the Russian speaking countries by organizing meetings, facilitating dialogues and delivery of seminars and courses to enhance the quality, sustainability and reliability of management of water related services

(c) Participation by staff of the Parties in the delivery of such programs; and

(d) Evaluation of jointly delivered programs.

Specific Areas of Collaboration

IV.1 Specific areas of collaboration and specific activities will be defined jointly by the Parties, subject to the Parties' institutional mandates, and with due regard to: (a) a clear linkage between activities and the missions of both parties; (b) demonstrated need by the targeted countries, local governments and service providers for the activities; and, (c) anticipated impact on achievement of water related MDGs, poverty reduction and sustainability of ecosystems.

V.1 The implementation of the specific activities will be either done jointly or under the leadership of one of the parties with support from the other as will be agreed upon on a case by case basis.

VI.1 The areas of collaboration comprise but are not limited to:

II.1) Financing of infrastructure

III. 1) Implementation of the Right to Water

IV.1) Sanitation

V. 1) Development of partnerships for capacity development

Protection of Intellectual Property Rights

VII.1) The Parties recognize the importance of protecting and respecting intellectual property rights. This Memorandum does not grant the right to use materials belonging to or created by either Party. Specific arrangements for use and protection of intellectual property will be set forth in Activity Agreements.

Limits to Agreement

VIII. 1) This Memorandum does not constitute an agreement by either Party to provide support for any specific project or activity. Specific arrangements for individual projects or activities will be set forth in an Activity Agreement, signed by both Parties. Any sharing of information between the Parties will be subject to their respective policies on the disclosure of information.

Disputes

IX.1) Any disputes between the Parties arising out of or relating to Activity Agreements shall be settled by negotiation or arbitration in accordance with the dispute settlement provisions specified in the Activity Agreement.

Implementation Responsibilities and Key Points of Contact

10. The individuals with overall responsibility for implementation of this Memorandum are listed below. The Parties may, by written notice to the other Party, designate additional or different persons as points of contact but the Parties agree to have only one person at a time designated as the person with overall responsibility for all activities undertaken pursuant to this Memorandum.

For WWC:

*Daniel Zimmer, Executive Director
World Water Council
Espace Gaymard, 2-4 Place d 'Arvieux
13002 Marseille, France
Tel: (+33-491994100)
Fax: (+33-491994119)
Email: d.zimmer@worldwatercouncil.org*

For the SIC ICWC:

*Victor Dukhovny, Director SIC ICWC, building 11, Karasu-4, Tashkent, 700 187
Republic of Uzbekistan*

Timeframe and Termination

10. This Memorandum will continue for three years from the date of the last signature with the possibility of further extension based on mutual written agreement of the Parties. Either Party may, at its sole discretion, terminate this Memorandum at any time by providing written notice to the other Party, provided that the Parties' duty to fulfill obligations incurred under an Activity Agreement shall survive such termination.

Reporting, Monitoring and Evaluation

11. The Parties recognize the importance of monitoring and evaluating performance of collaborative activities undertaken pursuant to this Memorandum. Specific arrangements for reporting, monitoring and evaluating results and impact of such activities will be set forth in Activity Agreements relating to those activities.

12. The Parties also agree to meet on an annual basis to evaluate the overall effectiveness of all the collaborative activities undertaken pursuant to this Memorandum, including (i) the extent to which the Parties have achieved their institutional goals; and (ii) the extent to which the overall results achieved through collaborative action were greater than the sum of the results each Party would have achieved on its own.

Miscellaneous

13. Nothing in this Memorandum shall be construed as creating a joint venture, an agency relationship or a legal partnership between the Parties.

14. In witness whereof, the Parties hereto execute this Memorandum:

For the World Water Council

Loic Fauchon
President

For the Scientific Information Centre,
Interstate Commission for Water Coordination of Central Asia

Victor Dukhovny
Director

EC CONFERENCE DEVOTED TO THE OPENING OF THE SEVENTH FRAMEWORK RESEARCH PROGRAM

On the 6-9 of February 2007, professor Dukhovny V.A. with other 230 delegates invited from all over the world took part in the EC Conference devoted to official opening of the 7th Framework Program. The conference was held in the Bergamont Palace in Brussels.

At the opening conference, the Director General of the DG Research Mr. De Silva defined the main directions of the program for the years 2007-2012:

- to demonstrate the availability of scientific capacity, research and experience of European and bordering countries
- effectiveness of the research
- direct the efforts not only to Europe, but also towards raising the scientific capacity of the whole world and its implementation for the sake of mankind
- priority of information technologies and communications in order to make scientific space of the world universal

Although the program was approved by the European Community on the 18th of December 2006 with the total budget of 50.52 billions Euro, the funds allocated to the program by the present moment are 32.4 billions Euro, out of which: 9.05 billion Euro - Information; 6.1 billion Euro – Health – as the highest priority; 1 billion Euro – Ideas; 1.93 billion Euro - Food and Agriculture; 3.5 billion Euro – Nanotechnology; 2.3 billion Euro – Energy; and, 1.8 billion Euro - Environment.

The report of Martin Penny described the structure of the program. The following financial schemes were included:

- Collaborative projects
- Networks of Excellence
- Coordination and support actions
- Research for the benefit of specific groups
- Support for ‘frontier’ research
- Support for training and career development of researchers (Mary Curie)

Collaborative projects are divided into:

- consolidated collaborative projects
- large-scale integrating projects (more than 4 M Euro)
- small or medium-scale focused research projects (less than 4 M Euro)
- projects oriented to specific groups (SME, NGO etc.)
- collaborative projects dedicated to international cooperation partner countries

At least 3 organizations established in a MS or AC should participate in Coordination actions, and 1 legal entity should participate in the Support actions.

Doc. Robert Burmanger reported on International Collaboration in the special “Capacities” program.

The following countries (except for European countries) can participate in the program:

- ❖ associate countries
- ❖ industrially developed countries (USA, Canada, Austria, Japan, Australia)
- ❖ EC neighbor countries, including the Central Asian countries

Three types of activities were presented in the 2007-2008 program:

- interregional cooperation and collaboration (INCO-NET)
- bilateral research cooperative partnership
- coordination of national policies and activities (ERA-NET).

The first action program allows to initiate the cooperation between the regions in order to create the unified platform which would join stakeholders and political organizations of one conditional region with similar region in European Community which would establish the dialogue for initiation of research breakthroughs to the benefit of the both regions, implementation of concrete actions directed towards involvement of target regions in FP 7. Negotiations were conducted and the inclusion of SIC ICWC in the call for proposals in collaboration with other organizations in the region on behalf of the Central Asia was considered. Due date: May 2, 2007.

The second type of activity was directed towards bilateral collaboration between the countries under the project BILAT for strengthening cooperation with EC for countries that have cooperation agreement with EC. It is necessary to examine, which Central Asian countries have such cooperation agreements or consider such a possibility. Due date: before September 4, 2007.

There is a range of programs at the intergovernmental level, such as ERA-NET, EUREKA, COST. You can find more information about them on <http://ec.europa.eu/research/enquiries>.

Particular attention was paid to natural resources management. The report on natural resources management was prepared by the Director of DG Research, Natural Resources Management Department Dr. Pierre Matte.

The main aim of this direction is the 6.2 program:

- To support the international contribution to the implementation of UN convention on the biological diversification, on combating desertification, to activities of Intergovernmental Climate Change Panel and to Global Earth State Observation initiative (GEOS)

The separate task – the improvement of knowledge base and the development of models and tools for:

- Sustainable resource management
- Biodiversity conservation
- Sustainable ecosystem services
- Creation of efficient consumption approaches in order to reduce the environmental impact.

Activity Content:

- Understanding and forecasting the dynamics of natural systems
- Restoring and reducing degradation and monitoring of communication, structural and functional elements of ecosystems, including the biodiversity, water and mineral resources
- Improving capacity, impact of human activities on ecosystem and resources.
- Monitoring and forecasting the ecosystem in changing environment

The following tenders were suggested for 2008 and subsequent years:

- Evaluation of river basin behavior
- Quality and quantity of water, long-term scenarios
- Models of IWRM
- Monitoring of aquatic systems
- River twinning
- Monitoring of soils and observation of soil processes
- modeling the soil processes
- soils and ecosystems in the changing world, taking into account future energy challenges

Special grants under specific program “Ideas” were proclaimed under the aegis of The European Research Council.

All the grant proposals are double evaluated. Grants can be:

- Individual research teams, which are led by single “head researcher” who can choose the research object and direction;
- First “calls” at this direction were sent (ERC starting grant – with date of presentation on April 25th 2007). The following ERC Advanced Grant – will be issued in 2007. Every year there will be 300 grants 500-2500 Euro each.

Specific program “People” consists of several types of grants for education:

- Initial training of researchers
- Long-term training and cooperation development
- International dimension – outgoing and incoming fellowships

“Tender” process for this program was announced on February 28th 2007, with the application date on August 14th 2007.

While talking to Dius Lennon, Director of Social science, it was clarified that our regional and training center can participate in Marie-Curie Network in collaboration with foreign partner.

The meetings with a range of other leading specialists of EC were arranged as well.

GWP CACENA (GLOBAL WATER PARTNERSHIP FOR CENTRAL ASIA AND CAUCASUS) ACTIVITIES IN THE FRAMEWORK OF ASIA-PACIFIC WATER FORUM

What is Asia-Pacific Water Forum about?

Asia-Pacific Water Forum (APWF) was proclaimed by the Ministerial Declaration during the Fourth World Water Forum in Mexico on 21st of March 2006 for coordination of decision making on water problems in the region.

The APWF is an independent, not-for-profit, non-partisan, non-political network. The goal of the APWF is to contribute to sustainable water management in order to achieve Millennium Development Goals in Asia and the Pacific by capitalizing on the region's diversity and rich history of experience in dealing with water as a fundamental part of the human existence. Specifically, the APWF Network shall support the efforts aimed at boosting investments, building capacity, and enhancing cooperation in the water sector at the regional and national levels. To achieve the target APWF defines two main tasks:

1. To provide the countries and organizations in Asia-Pacific region with common platform for clear regional strategy articulation and creation of favourable conditions for successful water problems resolution including the supplying with necessary investments to the water sector. This can be achieved through comprising of well-coordinated network of member organizations that are willing to voluntarily commit their resources in order to meet the priority needs of water policy and decision-making
2. To demonstrate the leading role in the decision-making process, advantages of pioneering practice in innovation and specific results, which have significant meaning at different levels of water resource management hierarchy. This should be achieved by organizing regular Asia-Pacific Water Summits, where government leaders, water authorities and representatives of private sector and civil society will participate.

The official opening ceremony of APWF Network took place on the 27th of September 2006 in Manila, Philippines and the preparation to the first APWF summit which will be held in December 2007 in Japan began. The APWF Network is managed by the Governing Council, which is headed by the President of APWF Mr. Yoshiro Mori – the President of the Japan Water Forum, a former Prime Minister of Japan, and the Japan Water Forum on behalf of APWF Secretary. To avoid creation of new organizational structure it was decided to coordinate APWF activity at the formation stage by 5 sub regional GWP centers, which have their own network and certain financing from GWPO (Stockholm). The Sub-regional Coordinators are the organizations in the five sub-regions that represented the Asia-Pacific during the preparatory process leading up to the 4th World Water forum in Mexico and who prepared the Regional Document that lead to the Ministerial Declaration and, ultimately, to the creation of the APWF. Thus, GWP CACENA was to coordinate the Central Asian sub-region. Taking into account the IFAS Executive Committee's request at the meeting in Manila in September 2006, the IFAS EC was given the authority to coordinate the Central Asian sub-region jointly with GWP CACENA.

The First Summit of APWF

According to presented APWF Summit Concept, its aim is to create opportunity for regional political leaders² to understand the significance of water problems in the region in order to achieve Millennium Development Goals and to organize the dialogue with all interested in Summit problems parties. This will help to formulate the significance of specific actions in every country.

The first meeting of Governing Council was held in the framework of the 1st APWF Summit preparation on the 21-22nd of February 2007 in Singapore under the chairmanship of Prof. Tommi Koh (MIA of Singapore). The Regional GWP CACENA Coordinator Vadim Sokolov took part in the meeting.

The following issues were considered on the meeting:

- Draft Concept of Asia-Pacific Water Summit
- Draft conceptual notes to priority themes and key result areas of Summit
- The regulations and procedures of APWF
- Future actions

The meeting was organized by the Public Consumption Governance of Singapore – the organization responsible for drinking water supply and sewerage - as well as by the Ministry of Environment and Water Resources of Singapore. 44 people participated at the meeting – the members of the APWF Governing Council, APWF Secretariat (JWF, GWP-subregion representatives), Summit themes' leading organizations (ADB, UNESCO, UN-Habitat, UNESCAP, WHO, ICHARM, IUCN, FAO, JBIC, MEWR).

Three priority themes for consideration in Oita prefecture on 3-4th December 2007 in Japan and the leading organizations which would develop the strategy and operations on each theme were defined by the Summit Concept:

Priority Theme	Targets	Lead Organization
A. Water Financing	Increase targeted investments for water and sanitation infrastructure and for human resources development	ADB
B. Water-related Disaster Management	Drastically reduce the vulnerability of human populations to water-related disasters and provide the population with water after any disasters	ICHARM, WHO

² 49 target countries and regions were defined by APWF as participants of the First Summit (in alphabetical order): Afghanistan, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, China, Cook Islands, Fiji, Georgia, India, Indonesia, Iran, Israel, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Korea, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Malaysia, Maldives, Marshall Island, Federated States of Micronesia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nauru, Niue, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, East Timor, Tonga, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, and Vietnam

C. Water for Development and Ecosystems	Increase the water productivity by saving and restoring water ecosystems	IUCN, FAO, WWF
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Each of the above priority themes should be considered in the framework of coordination with key Summit result areas. The Concept defined 4 key results:

Key Result Areas	Main Activities	Lead Organization
1. Developing knowledge and lessons	Building a network of water knowledge hubs Coordinating capacity building programs Providing guidance on water policies	PUB Singapore, UNESCO
2. Increasing local capacity	Supporting peer learning (including cities/mayors) Empowering civil society, gender and youth Fostering (sub)regional cooperation	Streams of Knowledge, UNHABITAT
3. Increasing public outreach	Developing regional water advocacy Supporting in-country water awareness programs Presenting regional awards for excellence	ADB
4. Monitoring investments and results	Monitoring public and private investments Monitoring reforms and trends Monitoring Millennium Development Goals achievement	UNESCAP

As a result of discussions in Singapore of presented by leading organizations notes (the Russian version will be distributed to all interested parties) on the priority themes and key Summit results areas, it was decided to present the final version of those documents at the second APWF Governing Council meeting which will also take place on the 12-13th of July 2007 in Singapore. The final version of conceptual notes on priority topics and key Summit results areas will then be generalized into “Asian vision of Water Development” and uploaded to the Weblog: www.apwf.org in order to discuss it after and during the Summit. The suggestions and remarks on all the priority topics and key result areas can be submitted to APWF Secretariat at ap@waterforum.jp.

To coordinate the APWF Summit preparation process, a Steering Committee under the chairmanship of Yoshiro Mori was established. The following members of our subregion were included by APWF Secretariat into the Steering Committee: from GWP CACENA – its representative Mrs. Nino Chobadze, a former Minister of Environment of Georgia, and from IFAS EC – the Minister of Agriculture of Kazakhstan Mr. Ahmedjan Esimov and acting President of IFAS EC – Mr. Sulton Rahimov.

The first meeting of Summit’s Steering Committee was scheduled to 29th of March 2007, Tokyo. The agenda of the meeting is discussion of suggestions on Summit Agenda

and selection of Summit participants. According to the APWF Concept, its participants must be:

- Government leaders of 49 countries and regions
- Representatives of stakeholders – local authorities, private sector, non-governmental organizations and media
- Government officials – the representatives of water municipalities of 49 countries and regions
- Resource persons - the representatives of leading Summit themes organizations, particular organisation-members of APWF and their development agencies

What measures in the area of GWP CACENA are undertaken in order to support the process?

GWP CACENA's work plan for 2007 stipulates a number of activities to provide appropriate financial support for the preparation process in Central Asia and Caucasus to the first APWF Summit, in particular:

1. Preparation of Summit regional document in the context of three priority topics and four key results areas (including the analytical documents on each of 8 countries) = 4500 USD (500x8 countries+500 for generalization) – preliminary task to experts of all countries has already been distributed.
2. Organization of special session during the jubilee conference of ICWC in Almaty in April 2007 (jointly with IFAS EC) = 35000 USD. It is planned to discuss materials presented by national experts to Summit regional document and to outline further coordinated steps for Summit preparation during the meeting.

Participation in publication of regional documents for the Summit

In January 2007, the IFAS Executive Committee presented “Concept of Actions of the Central Asian region in the concept of APWF” which was distributed in the region. It should be noted that the document needs to be corrected and coordinated with water and planning municipalities of all regional countries (including South Caucasus countries). In particular, the section “Prerequisites” should be more reasonably and reliably edited because it does not consider Caucasus countries in the current document and presents Tajikistan as the most problematic country in the region. The section “Aims and objectives” should include the Caucasus problems. The section “Approach” in the current document is mainly the process schedule and it does not reflect the substantial (problematic for the region) part of priority themes and key Summit results areas. Corresponding suggestions on this issue were submitted to IFAS EC. Thus, it is proposed to perform additional processing of the document “CA Concept in the context of APWF” and to discuss this document at special session during the regional ICWC conference on 25-26th of April 2007 in Almaty.

Closer cooperation is expected between GWP CACENA and ICWC bodies and respective municipalities of Caucasus countries in the context of APWF Summit preparation. It will be necessary to inform governmental bodies about the oncoming APWF Summit (official invitations to countries will be distributed through Japan Embassies). In addition, appropriate organizations should be involved in preparation process and

negotiations with international donors in order to provide financial support for the preparation process and for participation of country representatives in the Summit.

THE FORTH MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE EUROPEAN WATER CONVENTION

(Bonn, 20-22 November 2006)

SIC ICWC has been cooperating for many years with the European Commission in the context of Water Convention, being a permanent participant of work groups and work meetings. Director of SIC ICWC Prof. Dukhovny V.A. took part in the meeting by invitation of the Ministry for Nature Resources, Germany.

The following issues were discussed at the meeting:

1. flood prevention and mitigation within integrated management of transboundary water resources.

The parties approved «The order of coordination between the countries in the field of flood prevention, protection and mitigation» and recommended it for including into respective Agreements between the countries. The document was uploaded on ICWC web-site.

According to SIC's proposal, the work group on flood was reorganized into the work group on «Water and climate». It also covered drought control and adaptation to climate change. SIC's representative will be included into the work group, which will prepare the guideline on adaptation to climate change in order to present it at the 5th meeting of the Parties.

2. The Parties agreed to organize a special European Water Convention session at the International ICWC Conference devoted to its 15th anniversary in Almaty city in May 2007. The Secretariat of the Commission and EECA will present their specific proposals and financial contribution to hold ICWC event up to 10 December.

3. SIC will be involved in the work group on revision of the guidelines for IWRM strategy in transboundary waters, taking into account ICWC's experience in introducing IWRM in Fergana Valley.

4. According to SIC's proposal, a pilot project on return water management in the Amudarya river was included into new programs on transboundary waters. It was proposed to present the experience related to this project with participation of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and BWO «Amudarya» up to the end of the year.

5. Pilot program «Monitoring and assessment of transboundary waters» will be developed with participation of ICWC under «CAREWIB» project and cooperation with INBO during the next three years. At the same time, comments to assessment of transboundary waters in the Aral Sea basin were presented, where mistakes were made in the part related to water distribution between Central Asian countries and Afghanistan.

6. It is planned to conduct a workshop within the program «Water dialogue on national policy» in collaboration with ICWC under the aegis of EECE in March 2007 in Ashgabat. The decision will be made up to the end of the year.

7. «Bonn Declaration on protection and use of transboundary waters and international lakes» was adopted.

38 countries, 27 international organizations and a number of NGOs took part in the activity.

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM «WATER RESOURCES AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCES IN ASIA»

(30 November – 1 December 2006, Bangkok, Thailand)

The international symposium “Water resources and the development of renewable energy sources in Asia” was held in Bangkok on the 30th of November -1st of December 2006. The symposium was organized by the International Journal on Hydropower and Dams, Network Events Company Ltd. and the Electricity Generation Administration of Thailand (EGAT). More than 320 participants from 44 countries participated in the meeting.

Such Asian countries as China, India, Russia, Vietnam, which can be distinguished by their rapidly developing economy, already have the water resource and renewable energy sources development programs, the other Asian countries also have a great capacity to develop such programs. About 93000 Mw of hydropotential is under development in more than 30 Asian countries and more that 210000 Mw is planned to be developed in the next 10 years. International cooperation between the regional countries facilitates the rapid progress and represents the way of integrated regional development.

Many global and Asia-specific problems such as planning, financing, technologies (designing, building, operation, and security), environment and public participation were discussed during the symposium. The development of hydropower was considered, taking into account the development of water resources for different uses. The speakers at the plenary session noted the importance of water resource development for food security (Thierry Facon, FAO) and the key role of reservoirs for productive water use (Peter Lee, the President of ICID)

The experience of Electricity Generation Administration of Thailand (EGAT) in the development, operation and reconstruction of multi-purpose dams, hydropower plants, and pumped-storage plants was presented. The assistance of EGAT in the development of water resources of neighboring countries through energy purchase agreements was also emphasized.

SIC ICWC presented the report devoted to “Multi-sectoral cooperation on water resource use in Central Asia” at the session on “Regional cooperation: progress and problems”.

Summing up the results of the symposium, Peter Lee (ICID) noted that there were excellent opportunities to develop hydropotential (67% of this potential is not used yet). At the same time, the irrigation capacity is much less (less than 20% is not used), which prioritizes efficient use of existing resources, water resource management for sustainable agriculture, and increasing the productivity from multi-purpose use. Simultaneous development of hydropotential and agriculture is required. The countries with limited access to financial resources must be better informed about the international financing activities.

Judith Plummer, the World Bank representative, defined several directions of operations to assist the work processes. In particular, the institutions should work faster, contact and convince others of the importance of sustainability; private sector should increase the possibility to make deals in other places and under other conditions and to decrease the operational expenses; governments should pay more attention to the importance of political environment and to approaches to risk management; CDM should develop the mechanism to set criteria for financing carbonic acid emissions for large dams; all the parties should enhance communication and dialogue to take into account all the expenses and benefits and to promote higher transparency of the processes.

The need was emphasized to enhance the synergy between water and energy, hydropower and other energy sources, large and small hydro power plants, current and planned projects, developed and developing countries, national and regional organizations, hydro-community and other stakeholders, as well as economic, social and environmental issues.

The symposium was preceded by the World Bank's one day seminar on water infrastructure financing.

THE MEETING OF EXPERT GROUPS ON CABRI-VOLGA PROJECT

With the aim of exchanging views about the "SCENES" project methods with reference to river basins in the European part of Russia, the SIC ICWC was invited to the meeting of experts devoted to "Cabri-Volga". The meeting was held on November 15-17, 2006, in Cherepovec city, Russia.

The politics in the Volga region and the action plan for Volga river basin ecological risk management were discussed. The meeting was the continuation of two previous meetings held in Nizhni Novgorod (September, 2005) and in Kazan (April, 2006). The situation was discussed in the previous meetings and the management problems were identified. Moreover, the review was carried out where the possible solutions, based on the experience of other countries and projects were considered. The aim of current meeting was to suggest specific actions directed towards the improvement of management practices.

5 expert groups were working on the project:

1. River sanitation
2. Security and vulnerability of people
3. Natural resources and their rational use
4. River as a means of communication for people and goods
5. Institutional coordination and collaboration

General notes. The project itself does not fulfill any activities. The main task is to enhance the relations among the partners, allow cooperative working and dialogue. In other words, the link between the science and decision-making should be established.

The result of the project can be the identified directions of future activities which are not in the context of current project but in the framework of new proposal development.

The functions of expert groups were limited to problems defined during the meeting in Kazan. “Security and vulnerability “group paid particular attention to common risk – flood. Although the drought problem applies to only mid- and downstream, and it had been defined as a problem in Kazan, this problem was not among the three top priority risks.

The results of expert groups’ work were represented as a specific actions recommendation document, which includes:

Expert group number 1: “River sanitation”

1. Development of realistic environmental principles for water quality standards
2. Building the urban treatment plants to clean the storm water.
3. Adjust the licensing and taxation systems in order to improve the fulfillment of environmental requirements and to encourage investments in “good environmental practices”.
4. Create an effective framework for river basin management. Strengthen the human capacity in managing water resources.
5. Improve and supplement the financial structure for managing the river basin.
6. Develop the pilot project for examination and control of modern water resource management perspectives.
7. Application of EcoNet project principles and enhancement of community awareness
8. Formally include the ecosystem protection as one of the aims of management in Water Code

Expert group 2: “Security and vulnerability of people”

1. Inspection of hydraulic works status in order to evaluate risks concerned with its operation.
2. Develop and implement the mechanisms for innovative, steady financing of technical services and security provision to hydraulic works.
3. Provide the quality of surface and ground waters, which meets the required standards, in order to use them as a reliable source of water supply.
4. Use the methods of integrated risk evaluation, taking into account the social, economic and ecological aspects for territories prone to floods.
5. Improve the water supply to provide the population with high quality drinking water.

Expert group 3: “Natural resources and their rational use”

1. Improve the distribution of water resources
2. Improve the operation of hydropower stations and hydraulic works
3. Effective use of monitoring data, increase the number of observation points, provide the population with access to information.
4. Identify the new status of water protection zones in accordance with the Water Code
5. Development of amendments to the Water Code and corresponding statutory acts regarding basin council’s authority.
6. Elaboration of statutory acts regulating the division of authorities between the federal and regional governments regarding water use fees.

Expert Group 4: “River as a means of communication for people and goods”

1. Development of integrated transportation strategy
2. Enhance the interrelation among different types of transportation
3. Gradual improvement of infrastructure

Expert Group 5: “Institutional coordination and collaboration”

1. Assistance (at the governmental and non-governmental levels) in development of partnerships and coordination among the groups of stakeholders.
2. Government incentives to expand the business involvement in protection, rational usage and monitoring of water resources.
3. Enhance the coordination and collaboration (both vertically and horizontally) between the government officials responsible for water use regulation and water protection at all levels.
4. Step-by-step development and control of by-laws implementation
5. Elaboration and implementation of uniform models on standard licensing procedures and permissions to use water. Control the implementation of those models.
6. Development and introduction of damage evaluation regulations, in order to assess the damage caused to water resources as a result of agricultural activities.
7. Introduction of ecological and economic accounting system in integrated water use.
8. Wider practical application of integrated water use and protection principles.
9. Assistance in development of partnerships between the river basins of EU and Russia; the first steps were the development of scientific-technical collaboration and data communication.

ACCELERATED IMPLEMENTATION OF INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT IN CENTRAL ASIA

(Combined regional seminar of Global Water Partnership of Central Asia and Caucasus (GWP CACENA) and UCC-Water (UNEP), Tashkent, 29-30, November 2006)

40 people took part in the regional seminar: experts of ministries and municipalities from Kyrgyz Republic, Republic of Tajikistan and Republic of Uzbekistan, Scientific-Information-Centre of the Interstate Commission for Water Coordination (SIC ICWC) and its Training Centre, and representatives of international agencies. All the participants of seminar were given a set of materials in English and Russian, including the copies of presentations, reports and final sub-regional report.

Vadim Sokolov, the President of GWP CACENA opened the seminar. In his greeting speech addressing the objectives and tasks of Central Asian component of UNEP program, then he thanked UNEP and its UCC-Water agency for assistance in the preparation of national IWRM plans, Mr. Sokolov also showed his appreciation to the representatives of international agencies for participation in the seminar.

Then, the Head of UNDP unit “Environment and energy” in Uzbekistan Anvar Nasretudinov read out the York Staudenman’s words (advisor on water guidance policy, UNDP Regional Centre in Bratislava) to the regional seminar participants. In his message

York Standenman highly appreciated and approved the work on the “Acceleration of objectives of IWRM-2005 in Central Asia”, undertaken in the context of joint initiative of UNEP-UCC program and Global Water Partnership (GWP). He also expressed his intention to enhance close cooperation in order to ensure that the planned UNDP/GEF projects are the follow-up and implementation of recommendations and procedures and aim at development and fulfillment of National IWRM Plans in the Central Asian countries.

Further, the following presentations were made in the first day:

V.A.Dukhovny (Professor, Director of SIC ICWC)

“Expertise in introduction of IWRM principles in the pilot objects of Fergana Valley”

M. Horst (Regional Advisor of UCC-Water, sub regional Coordinator)

“The main results of the Central Asian component of UNEP program and directions of further activity development”

V.Sokolov (Chairman of GWP CACENA)

“The link between the Central Asian component of UNEP program and projects with similar direction as implemented under the direction of SIC ICWC and GWP of Central Asia and Caucasus”.

In those presentations the following issues were addressed - lessons learnt from “IWRM- Project” in Fergana Valley

- evaluation of national “Roadmaps” from the point of their compliance with the IWRM principles

- the main points of sub-regional report on Central Asian component of UNEP program

- review and analysis of projects, including the elements of IWRM as carried out under

the direction of SIC ICWC and GWP of Central Asia and Caucasus.

After that the seminar participants were presented the final versions of “Roadmaps” and justifications of short-term activity items related to IWRM planning. After the regional seminar discussions in Bishkek (27-28.07.06), those documents were completed, undergone approbation at national seminars held in September-October, 2006 and officially approved by the ministries and municipalities of Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan.

“Roadmap” presentations and justification of short-term activity positions were made by:

Abdibay Djayloobaev (Director of SIC ICWC branch in Kyrgyzstan, the member of RTAC GWP CACENA, National Expert of UCC Water),

Yarash Pulatov (General Director of TajNIIHM, the member of RTAC GWP CACENA, National Expert of UCC Water)

Normuhammad Sheraliev (the Head of the Central Water Administration, Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources, the Assistant of National Expert of UCC Water)

During the discussions about the “Roadmaps” and report presentation the following participants took active part:

- From the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) - The Director of Regional Office H. Maag, Water problems Manager S.Djalalov
- From USAID: The Director of programs in Uzbekistan, A. Kalashnikov,
- From UNSECO-ZEF: the Director of the office in Uzbekistan, D. Lamers
- From UNDP representative office in Uzbekistan: Representative of the office in Uzbekistan, U. Islamov
- From UNDP “National IWRM plan and water saving for Kazakhstan”, UNDP Project Manager, A. Nikolaenko.

The participants of the discussion noted the timeliness and usefulness of work undertaken in the context of Central Asian component of UNEP program.

In his speech Hanspeter Maag appealed: «Think regionally. Act at the national level. Activate the experience exchange». He also recommended a cautious approach to the acceleration process, because every step must be first of all manageable. From this point of view, he called out to analyze the experience derived from past projects and to work through the principles of IWRM at the pilot objects in order to take into account the specific character of different regional areas.

In the second part of the seminar Vadim Sokolov presented the participants the report of Torkil Yonch Clausen (The Director (on development issues) of Dutch Hydraulic Institute) “Issues in monitoring of IWRM. A system of indicators.”

Then the discussion proceeded

On the second day of seminar the following reports were presented to seminar participants:

V.A.Dukhovny (Professor, Director of SIC ICWC)

“Draft proposals of ICWC on the transition to IWRM in the lower reaches of Amudarya and Sirdarya rivers”

A. Nikolaenko (UNDP Manager)

“Kazakhstan’s expertise in the development of National IWRM plan”

P. Umarov (Director of ICWC Training Centre)

“The role of ICWC Training Centre in the development of IWRM organizational capacity. Experience and perspectives”

I. Beglov (Leading Specialist, SIC ICWC)

“Information Data Base CAREWIB as an IWRM national planning tool”

In those set of reports the following aspects that had to be reflected during planning IWRM were addressed:

- Balance of national and regional interests in water resource use
- Social mobilization of stakeholders
- Approach to strengthening the IWRM organizational capacity

- Actual questions regarding IWRM planning progress, on the example of the Republic of Kazakhstan
- Informational support of IWRM planning

As a result of discussions and debates concerning the materials presented at the seminar, the participants of regional seminar unanimously decided:

1. Approve the final report on the activities in the context of Central Asian component of UNEP program
2. Entrust the project experts with organization of official transfer of “Roadmaps” and justifications to the Governments through the Department of Water Resources in Kyrgyzstan, Ministry of Water Resources in Tajikistan, Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources in Uzbekistan to make the decisions on practical implementation.
3. GWP CACENA in collaboration with UCC Water should continue promoting the results of project to potential donors/international organizations to support the development of National IWRM Plans based on “Roadmaps”
4. Continue exchange of experience and information with the UNDP Project “National IWRM plan and water saving for Kazakhstan”

IMPROVED MANAGEMENT OF SHARED WATER RESOURCES IN CENTRAL ASIA

On the 17-18th of November 2006, work meeting devoted to the discussion of regional water policy in the context of ADB technical assistance project “Improved management of shared water resources in Central Asia” was conducted in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. The representatives of National Work Groups (NWG) and the members of Regional Work Group (excluding “Energy” UDC) took part in the meeting.

Before the meeting, a training seminar titled “International and National Water Law” was held on 14-16 November with the participation of Prof. Patricia K. Wouters (Director, UNESCO Center for Water Law, Policy and Science, Dundee University, Scotland). During the seminar, the participants listened to reports and statements provided for by the program, and discussed the acting and draft agreements in terms of the general positions in the International Water Law presented by Prof. Wouters, and opportunities to use them in a draft Agreement on the Use of Water and Energy Resources in the Syrdarya River Basin”.

The participants noted a certain progress under ADB RETA, in particular:

1. All NWGs submitted a protocol on the approval by NWG members of the national reports on acting agreements’ efficiency analysis.
2. The NWG of the Kyrgyz Republic submitted remarks to the report of BWO “Amudarya” on the Amudarya river basin.
3. The NWGs of the Kyrgyz Republic, Turkmenistan, Republic of Uzbekistan and BWO “Amudarya” submitted remarks to the draft Agreement on the Use of Water and Energy Resources in the Amudarya River Basin.

4. Considering additional materials submitted by NWGs, a generalizing report on inventory results was prepared. During the discussion, certain drawbacks in the procedures for carrying out activities and in accuracy of presented data were noted. In particular, some positions mentioned in the report require more precise definition and detailed justification.

It was noted that despite the appeal made in the minute of the work meeting held on 13-14 October 2006 to leaders of NWGs to assist in achieving approval of the draft Agreement on the Formation and Functioning of National, Basin and Regional Databases on Integrated Use and Protection of Water Resources in the Aral Sea Basin by the Governments, there was no progress in this respect.

Following the discussion of the inventory results, it was proposed to continue this work, in particular to establish an expert group from among NWGs (one representative from each group), which:

- will take part in detail assessment of the prepared report on inventory, and develop more detailed methodical recommendations for accounting overall basin costs
- will start working on assessment of damage caused in non-fulfillment or poor fulfillment of provisions agreed by the Parties. It is recommended to do this work in two stages:
 - development and coordination of methodical recommendations
 - data collection and assessment of actual damage

The participants of the meeting will appeal to the ADB to include these positions in the 2007 plan of activities in order to develop rules of cost sharing and funding for interstate cooperation between the Parties.

The participants discussed the draft Agreement on the Use of Water and Energy Resources in the Syrdarya River Basin and adjusted it with account of received remarks from the NWG of the Kyrgyz Republic and suggestions during the training. The participants agreed that the draft would be revised on the following positions:

1. BWO "Syrdarya" will prepare Annex 1 to article 6 of the draft, in which water withdrawals by the Parties will be presented according to the schemes for integrated use and protection of water resources
2. The members of NWGs from the energy sector will adjust Annex 2 to article 7 in the draft
3. During a meeting "Achieving a Consensus and Preventing Conflicts" to be held on 4-6 December 2006 in Tashkent and timed to the seminar, article 13 "Responsibilities of the Parties", article 14 "Information", article 16 "Dispute Resolution" will be revised.

The members of NWGs and RWG will take appropriate actions to complete final editing of the draft Syrdarya Agreement until the end of 2006.

Based on the submitted remarks and taking into account the discussion and revision of the draft Syrdarya Agreement, appropriate alterations will be made in the draft Agreement on the Use of Water and Energy Resources in the Amudarya River Basin and considered at a meeting on 4-6 December 2006.

Considering the practical training carried out on the basis of a draft Agreement on Strengthening Organizational Framework for Management, Protection and Development of Transboundary Water Resources in the Aral Sea Basin and a draft new Regulation on ICWC, the NWGs will submit their proposals for improving the text of the draft Agreement in view of requirement of the International Water Law and identified drawbacks by the next roundtable meeting.

Taking into account that it is expedient to further develop the negotiation process and carry prepared draft agreements to signing, the members of NWGs will submit proposals regarding the scope of additional work (except the completion of started agreements) for 2007 by 4 December 2006. Ask ADB to stipulate the RETA program extension in plans for 2007.

On the 4-6th December 2006, joint training seminar “Consensus Building and Conflict Resolution” and work meeting for the discussion of regional water policy in the context of the project were held in Tashkent. The representatives of national working groups (NWG) and regional working group (RWG) took part in the meeting.

The participants of the meetings were greeted by Israeli Ambassador in Uzbekistan His Excellence Ami Mehl. With the support of the Israel Embassy in Uzbekistan, Shimon Tal, the former Director of Water Commission in Israel and the Commissioner of Israeli-Jordan Joint Water Committee, and Itzhak Alster, an expert in international water law, were invited as lecturers of the seminar. The participants expressed thanks to the Embassy for assistance and participation at the seminar.

During the seminar, the participants listened to lectures in the agenda, and discussed draft agreements focusing on procedural obligations of the parties and mechanisms for resolving disputes. Based on the results of the discussions, Articles “Responsibilities of the Parties”, “Information” and “Dispute Resolution” in the draft Agreement on the Use of Water and Energy Resources in the Syrdarya River Basin were revised and amended.

The participants noted with satisfaction that the work on the draft Agreement has been completed in this stage, members of the National Working Groups (NWG) and Regional Working Group (RWG) reached a consensus on the text of the draft Agreement and deem it necessary to send it to ICWC members for approval after revisions stated below:

1. BWO “Syrdarya” will prepare the list of water objects that are of interstate significance in order to include them in the draft agreement by the 19th of December 2006.
2. NWG Tajikistan will coordinate the exclusion from the draft agreement of the paragraph 6.3 and appendix 1 with regard to opinion of Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan.

The participants also discussed the proposals to the draft Agreement on the Use of Water and Energy Resources in the Amudarya River Basin, prepared by BWO “Amudarya” with account of the text submitted by the NWG Tajikistan and remarks of the NWGs of the Kyrgyz Republic, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, and they approved its structure. Moreover, it was deemed necessary:

- to make amendments in it according to the reached agreements on the draft Agreement on the Syrdarya River Basin

- instruct BWO “Amudarya” together with members of the NWGs of Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan to make amendments that present the specificity of water resources management in the Amudarya river basin, in particular, specify environmental flows along the river, especially into the delta, specify Articles 6 and 7 in the draft Agreement, determine necessary requirements to water releases, based on the need for filling of in-stream reservoirs, advance time and order of water allocation along the river with account of losses
- members of the NWG Tajikistan to specify their detailed requirements to Articles 8, 10 and 11 in the draft Agreement; instruct members of the NWGs of Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan to justify environmental requirements to flows in canals, environmental requirements of the delta, requirements to the operation mode of the Tyuyamuyun reservoir, based on requirements for domestic needs and fish bio-productivity maintenance.

The experts discussed and agreed on the proposals to the program of activities for further development of the ADB RETA 6163 for 2007. In particular, the following activities were included in the program of activities:

1. Revising the draft Agreement on the Use of Water and Energy Resources in the Syrdarya River Basin after remarks of the Governments of the Parties;
2. Improving the draft Agreement on the Use of Water and Energy Resources in the Amudarya River Basin;
3. Revising the draft Agreement on Strengthening Organizational Framework for Management, Protection and development of Transboundary Water Resources in the Aral Sea Basin;
4. Developing and agreeing detailed methodical recommendations for accounting of basin-wide costs, data collection and assessment of actual damage;
5. Developing rules for implementation of procedural obligations to the draft Agreement on the Use of Water and Energy Resources in the Syrdarya River Basin, afterwards to the draft Agreement on the Amudarya River Basin;
6. Making recommendations for improving the Rules for flow regulation and management in the Syrdarya river basin;
7. Specifying channel losses over the Amudarya river;
8. Preparing a register of interstate facilities on the Amudarya and Syrdarya rivers.

Entrust SIC ICWC to present justified ADB proposals on paragraphs 6, 7 getting BWO “Amudarya”, NWG Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan to take part in the activity.

Entrust SIC ICWC in collaboration with BWO “Amudarya” and Amudarya river basin NWG to apply to ADB with proposal to allocate funds for developing and introducing water resources monitoring system in the Amudarya river basin.

As the request to RWG officials about providing governments with assistance in coordination of draft agreement “Formation and functioning of national, basin and regional database for integrated use and protection of water resources of the Aral Sea Basin”, as recorded in the work meeting protocols of 13-14th of October 2006 and 17-18th of November 2006, did not have any results, IFAS EC are asked to remind about the request again.

A regular meeting of the working groups on discussion of the regional water policy under the ADB RETA “Improved Management of Shared Water Resources in Central Asia” took place in Ashkhabad, Turkmenistan, 8-10 March 2007. The meeting was attended by ICWC members, representatives of the national working groups (NWG) and members of the regional working group (except United Control Center “Energy”).

The participants of the meeting were welcomed by Minister of water Resources of Turkmenistan M. Akmammedov, ICWC members A.D. Ryabtsev, M.Y. Khamidov and S.R. Khamrayev, acting as Chairman of the IFAS Executive Committee S.N. Rakhimov. The speakers noted the importance of activities carried out with the assistance of ADB, and the need for continuing the cooperation under the mentioned project with a view to searching for mutually acceptable solutions for water resources management in the region.

ICWC members informed the participants about changes in the membership of NWGs. The Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources of Tajikistan nominated A.M. Zoirov to the Government for approval to act as a new leader of the Tajik NWG. Upon the submission by S.R. Khamrayev, R.Z. Srazhitdinov and R.Kh. Tashev were assigned members of the Uzbek NWG. At this meeting, the interests of the Kazakh NWG were represented by N.K. Kipshabayev and M.K. Bekniyazov by proxy of ICWC member. It is necessary that the same NWG members participated at the project meetings.

At the meeting, ICWC members discussed and approved the results of the completed activities under the project for 2006 and the work program for 2007. At the suggestion of the participants, amendments were inserted into item 5 in the work program: the title was changed to “Revision of channel losses in mid- and downstream of the Amudarya river”. The Tajik NWG also suggested expanding the terminology reference book.

Members of NWGs and RWG will take measures to implement the proposed plan by the end of 2007, taking into account that funding of this project will not be further continued. The participants took into consideration the information of Director SIC ICWC Prof. V.A. Dukhovny on that the ADB will continue financing activities under regional programs at suggestions of ICWC, provided successful implementation of the main outcomes in the work plan for 2007.

For further implementation of activities, subgroups of specialists from the five countries will be established:

- on development of rules for implementation of procedural obligations and making recommendations for improvement of rules for water and energy resources regulation and management in the Syrdarya river basin: one member from each NWG, M.Kh. Khamidov was charged to lead the work;
- on revision of channel losses in the mid- and downstream of the Amudarya river: one member from each NWG, Y.Kh. Khudaybergenov was charged to lead the work;
- on development and agreeing of detail methodical recommendations for recording of basin-wide costs, gathering of data and assessment of actual damage from water use regimes (as suggested by the Tajik NWG, “and energy resources” to be added): one member from each NWG and one representative from each BWO, representative of Tajikistan to be charged to lead the work;
- on revision of the draft Agreement on Strengthening the Organizational Framework for Transboundary Water Resources Management, Protection and Development (as suggested by the Tajik NWG, “water resources of interstate sources” to be written instead of “transboundary water resources”) in the Aral Sea Basin: one representative from

each basin state and one representative from each BWO, Prof. V.A. Dukhovny was charged to lead the work;

- on preparation of an inventory of interstate objects: one member from each NWG and one representative from each BWO, D.R. Ziganshina responsible.

Ask ICWC members to define official representatives of subgroups giving them authority to participate in the decision-making regarding all problems developed by topical subgroups.

The members of NWG are to prepare the vision regarding paragraphs 3-4, 5, 6, 7, 8 by the end of the April 2007. The subgroup leaders in coordination with RWG members are to present for consideration the proposals on work plans regarding each position by the next ICWC meeting.

The draft Agreement on Water and Energy Resources Use in the Syrdarya River Basin” was discussed in view of remarks of the Kazakh NWG and Tajik NWG. It was noted that items 6.2 and 8.3.-8.4. in this Agreement should be additionally agreed. Under item 6.2., it was decided to include, in the text of the Agreement, water resources allocation in accordance with a correcting note to the revised scheme of integrated water resources use and protection in the Syrdarya river basin, and give an extract from the scheme of water allocation among the states in Annex. To agree items 8.3-8.4 in the draft Agreement, a meeting of members of NWGs, per one responsible representative of Water and Energy Ministries from 4 countries, will be organized in Tashkent in the first ten days of April 2007.

It was decided to continue the work on the draft Agreement on Water and Energy Resources Use in the Amudarya River Basin.

JOINT WORKSHOPS FOR THE PROJECTS «INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT IN FERGANA VALLEY» (IWRM-FERGANA) AND «CENTRAL ASIAN REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT AND WATER INFORMATION BASE» (CAREWIB)

The joint workshop for the Projects «Integrated Water Resources Management in Fergana Valley» (IWRM-Fergana) and «Central Asian Regional Environment and Water Information Base» (CAREWIB) was held under coordination with the Department for Water Resources under the Ministry for Agriculture, Water Resources and Processing Industry of the Kyrgyz Republic and with financial support by the Swiss Agency on Development and Cooperation (SDC) in Osh branch of ICWC Training Center on 22 February 2007. The same workshop was conducted under agreement with the Ministry for Reclamation and Water Resources of the Tajik Republic in Khodjent on 24 February 2007. The aim of those workshops was to acquaint the members of Collegiums of the Department for Water Resources, Basin Administration for Water Resources, officials of the ministries and provincial water management organizations with the results of IWRM implementation in the Fergana Valley, information portal CAWater-Info and information system CAREWIB.

The following reports were listened and discussed at the workshops:

1. Direction and results of integrated water resources management implementation in the Fergana Valley - Prof. Dukhovny V.A., SIC ICWC Director.
2. Urgent problems of water management and governance improvement within the main canals and experience on IWRM implementation in Fergana Valley - N.N. Mirzaev, SIC ICWC.
3. WUA activity results under «IWRM-Fergana» Project and objectives for the perspective - M.A. Pinkhasov, SIC ICWC.
4. The role of social mobilization when introducing IWRM principles - H. Manthritlake, IWMI.
5. «IWRM-Fergana» Project experience and its dissemination among Extension Services RAS, Agency Support Development Process-NAU and BAIS for Andijan and Fergana provinces - S.A. Nerozin, SANIIRI.
6. The main results within pilot sites and «IWRM-Fergana» Project perspective in the Kyrgyz part of Fergana Valley - B. Matraimov.
7. The perspective of IWRM development in the Republic of Kyrgyzstan. –
8. «IWRM-Fergana» Project experience, adaptation of the results within Extension Service. The Perspective of Extension Service development in Fergana Valley - Sh.Sh. Mukhamedzhanov, SIC ICWC
9. The main results within pilot sites and «IWRM-Fergana» Project perspective in the Tajik part of Fergana Valley - Kh. Khodzhiyev
10. The perspective of IWRM development in the Republic of Tajikistan
11. Central Asian Water and Environment Portal CAWater-Info as a means for information support of the water sector in the Aral Sea basin - I.F. Beglov, SIC ICWC.
12. Central Asian Regional Environment and Water Information Base CAREWIB - D.A. Sorokin, SIC ICWC.

The following decisions were made as a result of acquaintance with reports and discussions among the participants:

- to approve the activities for the Projects «Integrated Water Resources Management in Fergana Valley» (IWRM-Fergana) and «Central Asian Regional Environment and Water Information Base» (CAREWIB);
- it was expedient to disseminate IWRM principles to the Right-Bank Canal;
- to pay attention to the problem related to improving sustainability of water supply to main canals Aravan-Akbura and Right-Bank through resolving the problems regarding water withdrawal into Osh water pipeline;
- to draw attention of provincial water management organizations to the necessity to facilitate AAC water protection zones;
- to deem it very important to provide sustainability of «IWRM-Fergana» Project composition (provincial executors);
- extension service of water users, functioning through RAS today, should be developed under support of MAWR and PI of the Kyrgyz Republic within federations and unions of WUAs;
- to assist in disseminating the methodology for effective irrigation water use, worked out by the project within Sokolok canal, to other tertiary canals and other WUAs

(according to water distribution between farmers and water fee for used water volume but not per hectare);

- to facilitate water accounting at water outlet level within tertiary canals and farms;

- it is needed to use Osh branch of SIC ICWC Training Center widely for water users and WUAs for training them in various directions of WUA activity (advanced methods for operating onfarm IDN, organizing monitoring over WUA water activity, preparing business-plans for WUAs, resolving land reclamation problems within WUAs, safe CDW use, etc.);

- state support is needed to equip WUAs with special technique and facilities required for onfarm IDN operation and maintenance and assign soft long-term credits for WUAs;

- incentives for WUA workers should be developed. Yield increase indicator for main crops within irrigated lands served by WUAs should be deemed as WUA activity indicator;

- all associations were transferred to management structure with separated management board (WUA Council) and executive body when re-registering and registering newly established WUAs. This practice should be completed;

- the mechanism to legalize and make functioning market of saved water resources should be developed and ratified in legal regulations;

- the need for further development of information exchange in the region and introduction of information systems not only into the Ministries for Agriculture and Water Resources and Provincial Departments for Water Resources but at lower levels – District Departments for Water Resources and WUAs makes no doubts. For that a permanent financial, institutional and policy support by the governments and donors is needed at the first stage;

- to start to establish national information system by the methodology for CAREWIB IS and fully integrated with it within MAWR and PI of the Kyrgyz Republic and its sub-units. National information system application would allow improving water use plan preparation process qualitatively and implementing water resources use planning and control processes at modern level;

- it is rational to attract attention to the problem of KhBC water availability increase as a result of planned water intake at 2 m³/s for drinking needs;

- to call attention of provincial water management organizations to the need to facilitate resolution of KhBC water protection zone problems;

- MAWR support is required to develop activities of Provincial Departments for Water Resources in close collaboration with Extension Service “Agency Support Development Process-NAU” in Tajikistan;

- to assist in organizing water accounting for farms;

- to strengthen trainings in advanced methods for IDN operation, water conservative technology application for WUA personnel with participation of Provincial Departments for Water Resources and MAWR of the Republic of Tajikistan in ICWC Training Center and its branches. To search for financing for this purpose;

- issues related to rendering reclamation services to farms-water users are reflected poorly in legislative and regulatory acts. Criteria for providing reclamation services for WUA water users should be stipulated when developing normative and methodical documentation;

- WUA's water right and an opportunity to legalize water market with certain rights to water resources transfer and sale should be consolidated in the legislation;
- it is reasonable to amend Water Code of the Tajik Republic by the article providing for the responsibility of water management organizations for violating limited water use and to make changes into the Agreement between the District Department for Water Resources and WUA;
- to start to establish national information system by the methodology for CAREWIB IS and fully integrated with it within MAWR of the Tajik Republic and its sub-units. National information system application would allow improving water use plan preparation process qualitatively and implementing water resources use planning and control processes at modern level.

All participants expressed their sincere thanks to the organizers – SIC ICWC and ICWC TC and the workshop sponsor - SDC.

OUR HEROS OF THE DAY

THE DECREE OF THE PRESIDENT OF TURKMENISTAN TO AWARD AN ORDER «ALTYN ASYR», III GRADE T. ALTYEV

To award the order «Altyn Asyr», III grade to *Altyev Tekebay* for meritorious services before the independent neutral Turkmenistan and its people, for selfless and conscientious work of many years in the water sector, for contribution to agricultural and water development in the country, for successes achieved in work and active participation in training of young specialists of the Golden Age and on the occasion of his 70th anniversary.

The President of Turkmenistan
Gurbanguly Berdymukhammedov

Ashgabat city, 6 March 2007

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